

HARDING COUNTY NEWSLETTER

COUNTY COMMITTEE

Matthew Mitchell, Chairman
Judy Casados, Vice-Chairman
Rose Mackey, Member

HARDING COUNTY FSA OFFICE

411 Chicosa Street
Box 217
Roy, NM 87743-0217

OFFICE STAFF

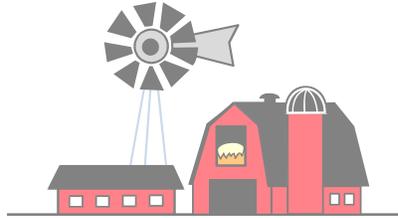
CED - Vacant
Darlene Hazen, LPT

COC REGULAR MEETINGS:

First Wednesday of
Each Month at 9:00 AM

OFFICE HOURS

8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Monday – Friday



TELEPHONE NUMBER

(575) 485-2294

FACSIMILE NUMBER

(575) 485-2495

June 2009

THE ACRE PROGRAM

The Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) is a new program authorized by the 2008 Farm Bill that begins in crop year 2009. Through ACRE, USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers producers an alternative to Direct and Counter-cyclical (DCP) payments. The ACRE alternative provides eligible producers a state-level revenue guarantee, based on the 5-year state Olympic average yield and the 2-year national average price.

ACRE payments are made when both state-level and farm-level triggers are met. By participating in ACRE, producers elect to forgo counter-cyclical payments. Producers also elect to receive a 20-percent reduction in direct payments and a 30-percent reduction in loan rates. ACRE sign-up dates will be announced soon so a producer can choose to participate in ACRE, or stay with DCP.

A decision to elect ACRE binds the producer to the program through the 2012 crop year, the last crop year covered by the 2008 Farm Bill. For more details contact your local FSA office.

ACRE/DCP SIGN-UP DEADLINE EXTENDED

USDA has extended the sign-up deadline from June 1, to Aug. 14, 2009, for both the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) and the forthcoming Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program. This action extends the sign-up deadline by 10 weeks to give producers ample time to decide whether to participate in ACRE or remain in DCP.

DCP – Base Acres on Federally Owned Land

The provision to terminate base acres on federally owned land has been rescinded. If you have a DCP contract on federally owned land, visit your county office to make sure your bases are restored and signed up for 2009 DCP.

CROP CERTIFICATIONS

July 15 is the deadline to certify CRP.

OFFICE CLOSURE

The office will be closed Friday, July 3, 2009 in observance of Independence Day.

CED Vacancy

Harding and Quay County are still without a CED. The position has not been filled at this time. Due to staff shortages, please be sure and call the office before making a trip to town.

**HARDING COUNTY FSA
PO BOX 217
ROY NM 87743-0217**

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2009 CRP Contract Extensions

Harding County CRP producers with contracts that were scheduled to expire in 2009 may modify all or part of their contract to extend the expiration date for a period of 3 years. Those producers should have received a letter explaining this offer. You **must** contact the Harding County FSA Office by **June 30**, 2009 to accept this offer to extend.

BEGINNING FARMERS & RANCHERS

FSA has a program to assist beginning farmers and ranchers to finance agricultural enterprises. Under these designated farm loan programs, FSA can provide financing to eligible applicants through either direct or guaranteed loans. FSA defines a beginning farmer as a person who:

- Has operated a farm for not more than 10 years
- Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm
- Agrees to participate in a loan assessment, borrower training and financial management program sponsored by FSA
- Does not own farm acreage in excess of 30 percent of the county's average size.

Each member of an entity must meet the eligibility requirements. Loan approval is not guaranteed.

Additional program information, loan applications, and other materials are available at your local USDA Service Center. You may also visit www.fsa.usda.gov and www.nrcs.usda.gov.

RECORD CHANGES

Contact the Harding County FSA Office if there are any changes to your farming operation such as:

- * Name/Address/Telephone
- * Direct Deposit information
- * Death of owner/operator
- * Private/state leases
- * Change in owner/operator
- * Change in partnership, corporation, trust, estate, etc

Failure to report these changes can result in loss of benefits.

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